GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:105
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015
Higher Education and Research
Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh;Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Australia propose to intensify existing partnership in higher education and research including technical and professional education, schools, vocational education and training in the country;
(b) if so, whether India and Australia have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the fields of education, training and research in the country and if so, the details thereof;
(c) the number of students likely to be benefited as a result thereof; and
(d) whether India has signed similar MoUs with other countries and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 105 FOR 07.12.2015 ASKED BY HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE AND SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE REGARDING HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

(a) India and Australia have had a very active bilateral cooperation in the field of education. An Educational Exchange Programme(EEP) was signed between the two countries way back in 2003. Under this, both countries have agreed on a detailed program of academic exchange under the EEP. Besides this, a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on Student Mobility and Welfare was signed between India and Australia on 17th October, 2012. Further, with a view to give a strategic direction of the education, training and research partnership between the two countries a bi-national body Australia India Educational Council (AIEC) was established in 2011.

(b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the fields of Education, Training and Research was signed on 24th August, 2015 at New Delhi during the third Australia-India Education Council meeting. The objective of the MoU, inter alia, includes increase in cooperation across all education sectors − schools, vocational education and training (VET) and higher education including technical and professional education.

(c) Outcome of the MoU in terms of students benefitted is not quantifiable at this juncture.

(d) Yes, Madam. The Government has signed Educational Exchange Programmes (EEPs) / Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs)/Joint Statements with 53 countries/ multilateral organisations. The list of inter-governmental instruments signed is annexed.